

Weather Forecast

Mostly cloudy; lowest tonight about 62; tomorrow partly cloudy, followed by local showers. Temperatures today—Highest, 70, at 2 p.m.; lowest, 65, at 6 a.m.
From the United States Weather Bureau report. Full details on Page A-3.

Closing N. Y. Markets—Sales, Page 22.

The Evening Star

WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

'From Press to Home
Within the Hour'

Most people in Washington have the Star delivered to their homes every evening and Sunday morning.

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88th YEAR. No. 35,086.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1940—FIFTY-FOUR PAGES.

THREE CENTS.

NAZIS DRIVE THROUGH ALLIES TO CHANNEL; ISLES AWAIT ATTACK; FRENCH CLAIM GAINS

Battle Raging in Boulogne Area; Churchill Warns Nation of Peril

Germans Raid Ports, Say English Are Embarking; Invaders Take Abbeville

By the Associated Press.

The German "blitzkrieg," smashing at 500,000 to 1,000,000 "pocketed" allied troops in Belgium and Northern France, today recaptured Abbeville, 12 miles from the English Channel, and Nazi authorities said it was "quite probable" they had also taken the vital Channel port of Boulogne.

The Germans admitted, however, that the "real battle" against England could not begin until the strategic allied "pocket" in Belgium and Northern France—extending from Abbeville to Ostend—has been crushed.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill, in a two-minute address to the House of Commons, announced the Fall of Abbeville.

"This country is in fearful danger," declared Alfred Duff Cooper, British Minister of Information.

Heavy fighting is raging around Boulogne, France, on the Channel, Mr. Churchill said.

More Hopeful Picture Given in Paris.

Paris, however, gave a more hopeful picture of the conflict. There it was reported that the French Armies, swiftly reorganized, were fighting with new fury to reunite their northern and central armies and chop off the long, sharp spearhead which the Germans have driven through Northern France to the sea.

As emphasized by Mr. Churchill, the threat of a Nazi invasion was apparently becoming hourly more grave.

Possibly as a preparation for this heralded next blow in Hitler's "total war" scheme, power-diving Stuka bombers and wasplike German speedboats smashed at Channel communications.

Meanwhile, Premier Mussolini summoned the Italian Supreme Defense Council into session, perhaps auguring the long-awaited Italian decision to enter the war.

A German break-through in the fierce fighting for control of English Channel ports imperiled communications between 550,000 allied troops "pocketed" in Northern France and 1,000,000 French soldiers to the south.

Gap Between Two Allied Armies.

"There is a gap between the two armies," a British spokesman admitted. "The allied situation on the western front is extremely grave."

Besides the vital line of communications being endangered by the Nazi onslaught, a British Expeditionary Force commander acknowledged that the Germans had reached "the neighborhood of the coast" on the English Channel.

The German high command reported the harbor facilities at Dover, England, and Dunkerque, France, had been "effectually bombed." Berlin sources said British troops falling back toward the Channel were "embarking at several French coastal points." England-bound transports, it was said, were bombed by German planes.

Churchill Reports

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, May 23.—Britain fought for her life today "in fearful danger" of German steel slashing its way through British soldiers to the English Channel, a possible attack through Ireland and a "fifth column" at home.

In the shortest parliamentary statement he has ever made—two minutes—Prime Minister Churchill told the House of Commons that there is heavy fighting in the Channel coastal area of Boulogne, only 26 miles from Folkestone, England; that Abbeville, France, is in German hands and that British communications are endangered.

Prime Minister Churchill said it "is too early yet" to say what the result of the coastal fighting may be, but declared it "evidently carries with it implications of a serious character."

While the House listened intently the Prime Minister said German mechanized forces which had made their way through the breach of the French lines had penetrated into the allied rear in Belgium "and are now attempting to derange their communications."

He appended this note, however—that the allied command, headed by Gen. Maxime Weyand, "is conducting operations involving all the allied armies with a view to restoring our political ideals."

Cromwell's Resignation Accepted by Roosevelt

By the Associated Press.

President Roosevelt accepted today the resignation of James H. R. Cromwell as Minister to Canada and wished him "the best of success in the large field of activity upon which you are entering."

Mr. Cromwell was nominated Tuesday by New Jersey Democrats as their candidate for United States Senator.

In a letter to Mr. Cromwell, made public by the White House, Mr. Roosevelt remarked that these are serious days in the history of the world and "require the intelligent and loyal co-operation of all of our citizens in order that our country may be prepared to resist any challenge to the continuance of our form of government or to the prosecution of our political ideals."

The President said he realized Mr. Cromwell believed "in our political objectives" and would continue to strive for their attainment. He said he could add only "that I hope you will be highly successful in the new field which you have chosen."

Churchill Repeats Pledge Britain Makes No Separate Peace

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, May 23.—Prime Minister Churchill repeated today Neville Chamberlain's pledge that Britain would never make a separate peace with Germany.

In a written reply to a question whether he renewed the pledge to conclude no peace except in agreement with France, Mr. Churchill answered one word: "Yes."

Duce Reportedly Calls War Council; African Situation 'Tense'

French Accused of 'Hateful Persecutions' Of Italians in Morocco

By the Associated Press.

ROME, May 23.—Premier Mussolini was reported by a usually reliable source to have summoned a meeting of his Supreme Defense Council today while his official news agency, Stefani, reported from French North Africa that "the situation is tense."

Italy accused French authorities in Morocco of "renewing hateful persecutions against Italians living in the protectorate."

Stefani reported from Rabat, French Morocco, that "without justified reasons or explanation Italians of all social classes have been arrested, imprisoned or expelled from the territory within a few hours, with disastrous consequences for their property and interests gained by decades of sacrifices and honest work."

French "Abuses."

The agency added: "Some nationals who asked to leave on an Italian steamer which was to arrive within a few hours instead were forced to leave immediately by train for Tangiers, where they knew nobody and where the situation cannot be bettered, considering the abuses and French interference with the international administration which pretends to safeguard the Sultan's prerogatives entrusted to French protection."

"In a government airplane factory at Casablanca, Italian workers have been arrested on the pretext of checking up cases of sabotage while other workers who are French or foreigners are not molested although they are notorious former Communists or friendly to Communists. The situation is tense."

Continuing war preparations on the eve of the 25th anniversary of Italy's entry into the World War, Mussolini ordered the General Board of War Manufactures made into a cabinet division.

The new division will be headed by an undersecretary of state directly responsible to Il Duce.

Rome University students today told Mussolini they would consider it "an honor and cause of pride to fight for the liberty and independence of the Italian Empire" and would not accept "threats of armies by nations aiming to suffocate the young strength of Fascist Italy."

Italian Foreign Minister Count Galeazzo Ciano, who has been inspecting Fascist projects and institution in Italian-held Albania, today left Tirana, the capital, for Soutari, near the Yugoslav border.

Heavy Fighting Seen.

"The real battle is constantly being brought closer to Britain," said DNB, official news agency, "but before it can begin the pocket in the north of France and the Belgian coastal area must be completely occupied by German troops."

In view of the strong forces encircled here it will not be done without heavy fighting.

DNB's report from the front said the allies had "small successes" yesterday, but that the Germans, with support from the air, drove the

'Heil Hitler' Handbills Distributed in Chicago

By the Associated Press.

CHICAGO, May 23.—The Federal Bureau of Investigation disclosed today that complaints had been received that "Heil Hitler" swastika handbills had been found in Chicago mail boxes and plastered on automobiles throughout the city.

The handbills, addressed to "German-Americans," said:

"Hitler will not forget you. Don't fear Roosevelt. Don't fight for British money. Remember, 1917, 'Heil Hitler.'"

William S. Devereaux, chief of the bureau, said the handbills "appeared to be no violation of Federal laws" under the jurisdiction of his department.

Postal authorities, however, said stuffing non-postal material in mail boxes was a violation and that those responsible, if found, could be forced to pay postage.

Defenders Fight Furiously to Reunite Armies

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, May 23.—The French armies, effecting what foreign military experts called a "miracle of reorganization," fought today with new fury to reunite their northern and central armies and chop off the long, sharp spearhead which the Germans have driven through Northern France to the sea.

Focketed with their British and Belgian allies, the northern French Army, using tanks, planes, motorized units and artillery, engaged the Germans in a bitter see-saw battle between Cambrai and Valenciennes, 25 miles apart.

Here, at the base of their long southern salient which extends northwest to the Abbeville coastal region, the Germans attacked to make tighter and smaller the sack in which they are holding the allied forces of Flanders (estimated by the Germans at between 500,000 and 1,000,000 men).

Lost Ground Recovered.

France's Army regained lost ground and began a "battle of Flanders" which a military spokesman described as "extremely violent."

The battle line extended between Cambrai, about 110 miles north of Paris, and Valenciennes, about 25 miles east of Cambrai. The spokesman said see-saw fighting resulted in the French reaching the outskirts of Cambrai, territory from which they had been pushed by the Nazi armored columns.

Military circles here said the fighting was progressing "satisfactorily on the whole."

Stabilizing lines along the Aisne and Somme Rivers were reported unchanged. The Somme was said to be held firmly by French troops from Ham to Abbeville.

The battle jockeyed back and forth along the Scheldt River, with temporary advantages for both sides. At one point the French, a military spokesman said, fought their way down to the outskirts of Cambrai, territory from which they had been pushed earlier in the week by Nazi armored columns volleying west.

French Fight Way North.

South of the salient, moving from their stabilized line along the Laon River, other French forces were en route north, fighting their way from the St. Quentin neighborhood toward the Cambrai battlefield.

A halt in withdrawals of the French and British troops from their lines in Belgium, north and west of this main battlefield, was implied in military reports, according to the authoritative newspaper Le Temps.

The extreme left wing of the allied armies, which swung into Belgium on the day of the German invasion, has taken up positions in the rear of the Scheldt and Scarpe Rivers, and the troops face south and southeast against the German forces which are swinging on the Channel.

The soldiers of France were heartened by their government's determination to cling to Paris.

Three zones in battlefront.

The northern battlefield was described here as being divided into these three zones:

1. A stabilizing line along the Aisne River extending westward from Rethel, about 100 miles north-east of Paris, to an indefinite point.

2. The strongly consolidated line on the Somme River, whose southern bank the French said was strongly defended from Ham to Abbeville, an airline distance of about 60 miles.

3. A jagged line of confused positions extending northward from the Somme area and culminating in the Cambrai-Valenciennes battlefield.

In the last zone German units are pushing in between independent French groups, while French scouting parties zig-zag between German advance guards. This confused area includes St. Quentin, Laon and Peronne.

French troops were en route north from the St. Quentin neighborhood toward the Cambrai battle zone.

The Germans continue to hold Amiens, 70 miles north of Paris.

The Germans attacked in force along the battle line running north and northeast of Cambrai along the Scheldt River to Valenciennes, but the French stood their ground.

But while the military arm reported this newest success in a northern battle being fought "with the greatest violence," the Admiralty (See PARIS, Page A-3)

King George to Speak To Empire Tomorrow

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, May 23.—King George VI will broadcast a message to the empire tomorrow, Empire Day, at 9 p.m. (3 p.m., E. S. T.).

The address will be heard locally over radio stations WMLA and WOL. Officials at WJIS were uncertain whether their system would carry the speech.

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Conservative M. P. Arrested as Britain Fights '5th Column'

Capt. A. H. M. Ramsay, Long Regarded as a Fascist, Is Detained

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, May 23 (P).—Sir Oswald Mosley, leader of the Fascist "British Union," went to Scotland Yard tonight in custody of police.

LONDON, May 23.—The arrest of Capt. Archibald H. M. Ramsay, Conservative member of Parliament, by direction of the Home Secretary was announced today by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Capt. Ramsay, a veteran of the World War, was detained in Brixton Prison as the government carried out a round-up of persons suspected as "fifth columnists."

At the same time a police guard was clamped on headquarters of the British Union, the British Fascist organization headed by Sir Oswald Mosley.

When a member of the House asked whether the Home Secretary would give the reason for Capt. Ramsay's arrest the Speaker replied, "Not at this stage."

Special officers took control of the British Union headquarters, near the Houses of Parliament, questioned every one who approached the building and examined all papers in desks and filing cabinets. Several persons left the headquarters accompanied by police.

Long Regarded as Fascist.

Capt. Ramsay, of a well known military family, long had been regarded as a Fascist, particularly on the score of anti-Semitism.

He was educated for the army at Eton and Sandhurst, the British West Point. He fought in the World War with the famous Coldstream Guards in France, where he was severely wounded in 1916. He was invalided from the army in 1919 after service at the War Office and with a British war mission to Paris.

He has four sons. His wife is the former Ismay, Lucasta May, daughter of the 14th Viscount of Portsmouth. Their residence is at Kellie Castle, Arbroath, Angus, Scotland.

Capt. Ramsay is vice chairman of the Cavendish Land Co.

His arrest followed closely the issuance of regulations under the emergency legislation passed yesterday empowering the home secretary to intern or arrest any one suspected of being active in an organization subject to foreign influence or control or who has "sympathies with the system of government of any power with which his majesty is at war."

Sir John assured the House that steps have been taken to safeguard England from the entry of "fifth columnists" as refugees. He said special measures have been taken to increase the arms available to police for their "own protection."

Ordinarily, British police carry only a truncheon, with no firearms except in emergencies.

Sir John also announced the expulsion of 167 members of the outlawed Irish Republican Army under the act to prevent violence. He declared it was against the public interest to disclose beforehand any steps against Communist and Fascist activities.

Replying to a question, the home secretary said: "This is a precautionary measure and Capt. Ramsay, like others who have been taken into detention, will have his right to make representations."

\$1,473,756,728 Navy Bill Voted Unanimously by Senate

Passed, 78-0, in 2 Hours, It Goes to Conference With Army Fund; House Due to Concur

By J. A. O'LEARY.

The Senate today passed by a vote of 78 to 0 the \$1,473,756,728 Navy bill in less than two hours, after having approved the \$1,823,252,724 Army bill late yesterday.

Thus, within 24 hours, this body has voted a combined outlay of \$3,297,009,452 to build up all essential phases of this country's defense system, in response to President Roosevelt's appeal for preparedness in the light of European events.

Both measures now go to conference with the House, which had already passed them with much smaller appropriations before the

trend of the war prompted the administration to speed the defense program.

House conferees, it is believed, will join the Senate in accepting virtually all the money added to the two bills in the past week.

The naval bill has two major objectives: To hasten completion of the 52 warships now under construction and to authorize other new ships; to begin expansion of the naval air force by enabling the Navy to buy or contract for 2,970 more planes and to begin the development of a chain of new naval shore bases along both coast lines and at strategic insular possessions.

Supporting Legislation.

While conferees work out final agreements on the two huge money bills, both Houses will continue work on supporting legislation intended to provide basic law for these new undertakings and to expedite work in war industries.

The goal of these basic authorizations is to provide the Army and the Navy with approximately 10,000 modern planes each, and the facilities to train an adequate corps of new pilots.

The vote yesterday on the Army bill was 74 to 0. The united front with which Congress is tackling the defense problem was shown again today in the 78-to-0 vote on the Navy bill.

Earlier, the Senate Naval Committee was told by Admiral John H. Towers that the Navy expects to train 15,000 new pilots for its Air Corps by June 30, 1944.

That would give the Navy a total of 18,500 trained pilots by that date, he testified. During the next 12 months the increase will be small, because expansion of training facilities will be the first step, the admiral explained. By July 1, 1941, the total number of pilots will be 3,850.

Thereafter, however, the number will go up rapidly, he said, to totals: July 1, 1942, 6,800 pilots; July, 1943, 12,000, and July, 1944, 18,500.

The bill the Senate passed today, the committee was told, will enable the Navy to buy or contract for 2,970 more planes. Under the 1938 air program, the admiral said, the Navy was authorized to buy not less than 2,000 planes. As of today, he said, 1,800 have been delivered, and 933 are under contract for delivery during the coming year.

Financing Uncertain.

It was still uncertain today whether congressional leaders will find it necessary to consider new taxes or a boost in the debt limit before adjournment to finance the heavy defense outlays. Chairman Harrison of the Finance Committee told the Senate late yesterday the committee would be called as soon as complete data is compiled by the Treasury, to decide whether the revenue problem (See DEFENSE, Page A-3).

Nazi Mechanized Units Seek to Join Forces

By the Associated Press.

BERN, Switzerland, May 23.—Two groups of fast German mechanized raiders—one in Belgium and one in France—are attempting to join forces in the Calais-Boulogne area in France and hurry the British-Belgian rear, German diplomatic sources reported here today.

The Germans said the break of a mechanized column through the British-Belgian line near Audenarde, Belgium, caused the Nazis to order the raiding column in the Abbeville, France, sector to turn northward.

Between the unit in Belgium and the new goal, however, are flooded regions behind Dunkerque, France,

Germans Mass At Coast for Major Stroke

U-Boat and Speedboat Crews Champing; Infantry Pours In

By LOUIS P. LOCHNER.

Associated Press War Correspondent.

WITH THE GERMAN ARMIES ON THE WESTERN FRONT, May 23.—I have reached the English Channel to find German forces here with the Nazi swastika flying.

It seems almost unbelievable that I should find Germany at this channel. But the swastika waving from the local commander's headquarters leaves no doubt about it.

Crews of U-boats and speedboats are champing to be sent on their errands of destruction.

(Mr. Lochner, chief of the Associated Press bureau in Berlin, is in the fifth day of a tour with the German forces on personal invitation of Hitler. He did not specify the point at which he reached the English Channel but apparently it was some place in Belgium.)

Here as elsewhere the roads of approach are jammed with infantry, more infantry, and still more infantry, and with artillery ever more formidable, backed by an air force equipped to the last fine detail. All are awaiting Adolf Hitler's final command to go to England.

Attack Will Be No Picnic.

Everywhere one hears soldiers singing the "Engelund" song. Young men realized such a venture would be no picnic.

"Maybe 50 of each 100 ships will be sunk by the British," one infantryman from Saxony said to me in his quaint dialect.

"But why shouldn't I be lucky and be on one of the ships that gets over?"

"And if not? ... well, that just cannot be helped."

Another lad from Mecklenburg rubbed his hands and declared: "Oh, boy! Won't it be great to march on to London?"

Just when Hitler will push the button, however, nobody could predict.

Meanwhile, the occupation forces have normalized life in this sector of the front as they did everywhere else. The Belgians go about their work as usual. Cafes and restaurants are open. Germans and Belgians mingling freely.

Shops are open and goods are sold for either Belgian or German money at a rate of 10 francs to one mark. Before the German invasion the Belgian franc was valued at 33 cents; the nominal rate on the Reichsmark is 40 cents.

Bombing Attacks First.

Germany's western armies battled, meanwhile, to "close the right wing of their pincers about allied forces in Northern France and Belgium and at the same time poured other divisions into mopping-up operations behind their lines before under-estimating the next big move."

Hitler is not likely to attempt to attack England herself until he has paved the way to his satisfaction with a tried and trusted program of these main points:

1. Destruction of all British naval, air and ground organization by air raiding.

2. Simultaneous destruction of airplanes and vessels.

3. Combined attack by speedboats, submarines and air bombers on British transports and warships.

Not until the Fuehrer feels that this has been done satisfactorily is he likely to aim a decisive blow with land forces.

Continuous bombing of the Belgian Channel port of Ostend and the French ports of Dunkerque, Calais and Dieppe is in line with this in the continuing fighting, the intention being to demolish docks to which British reinforcements might come and from which British and allied troops might escape in event of a rout.

Spy Suspect Arrested With Maps of Atlanta

By the Associated Press.

ATLANTA, May 23.—Arrest of a spy suspect possessing maps of potential military value was disclosed today by Atlanta police.

Detective Chief J. A. McKibben declined to give the prisoner's name, but said he was being held "for investigation" and described him as a 65-year-old man who speaks with a heavy German accent.

Mr. McKibben said also that the suspect described himself as a bricklayer, but his hands showed no signs of such manual labor; found in his quarters at a rooming house were scores of maps of key highways and natural gas lines leading into Atlanta, railway lines and yards in and around this city, floor plans of big Atlanta buildings; the prisoner admitted making the maps but said it was "for practice."

Also in his room were numerous engineering textbooks, radio manuals and other technical works; he claimed to have been in the United States for 39 years, despite his accent, but could produce no Social Security number or naturalization papers; he was arrested on an anonymous telephone tip.